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Myopia in the House

With respect to Mr. Mann many Republican in the House of Representatives seem afflicted with myopia. They see Mr. Mann at too close range. They like him personally. They know that he is exceptionally familiar with the business of the House. For several sessions he has made up the minority committee lists, and members believe in his fairness. Moreover, the House is one of the most conservative bodies in the world in so far as questions affecting its own government are concerned. On each side there is a lusty and well organized hierarchy which new members defer to.

That many Republican members should find it convenient to join the hierarchy or to try to get along with it is understandable. But in doing so they too often lose sight of the outside opinion. The Republican voters, who are anxious to see the party put its best foot forward, care little about Mr. Mann's familiarity with the rules and with House business, and even less about his personal good qualities. They regard him as weak in constructive leadership and as wrong about the war. Consequently, they condemn anything which has the appearance of granting him a new lease of control through the appointment of committee chairmen or members of the steering committee whom he dominates.

The committee on committees is under suspicion because the power of the states which elected Mr. Gillett Speaker has been misused. And though it is hard for a conference to undo the work of a committee on committees, the conference, in which members who voted for Mr. Gillett are in majority, has the final say. It ought to make any changes in committee assignments which seem desirable. And it would be a simple matter for it to add to the steering committee additional representatives of the more progressive Republican elements in the House.

The course of the committee on committees is breeding "insurgency." The spirit will grow unless House members generally broaden their vision and see the situation as outsiders see it.

Court-Martial Abuses

When Secretary of War Baker stated he did not recall that prior to the war "our system of military law ever became the subject of public attack on the ground of its structural defects" he placed himself on record as probably the only official of the War Department similarly ignorant. In 1914 elaborate articles by Charles J. Post, setting forth case after case of cruelty, injustice and abuse, were published in *Harper's Weekly*.

Conspicuous was this exposure of abuses, and it is amazing Secretary Baker should not have knowledge of it. Case after case was cited showing that enlisted men were punished by long sentences at hard labor in prison for slight infractions of discipline, while officers who committed crimes of embezzlement and fraud against the soldiers under them were lightly punished by a simple dismissal from the army.

One case related to a violation of regulations which resulted in manslaughter, but not a word of this was whispered into the trial, on a trivial charge, of the officer responsible; nor was the officer even dismissed. Every general conclusion drawn seems justified by the recent investigation by a committee of Congress and by the report of the special committee of the American Bar Association.

General Crowder, in his legal argument, in substance says he is powerless to revise court martial cases because Congress has not passed adequate legislation. This is scarcely ingenious. Congress passes the organic law, the Articles of War; but Congress also empowers the War Department to establish its own rules and regulations. These rules and the organic law are interpreted in a series of volumes known as the opinions of the judge advocate general, but originating in the department, these interpretations may be changed by the department itself.

The general holds he has no power of review. But he might have held he has power of review and there would be no one to gainsay him. Moreover, he has power to reverse the opinions of a predecessor. If he had so elected he need not have held that his power extends only to examining the clerical and routine correctness of the court-martial procedure. If he had so pleased he could have seen

in the court-martial system a borrowing from the British court-martial system of 140 years ago, when armies were recruited by press gangs from the scum of the population and beaten into soldierly discipline among freemen soldiers. Flogging in the navy went long ago, and its surviving brother should be expelled from the army.

Discipline in a Theatre

No one will wish to criticize hastily any soldier who has so enviable a record in the war as Major General O'Ryan. But the episode of the returned soldiers wearing Sam Browne belts and unauthorized insignia has started a reaction among civilian minds which is unfortunate and best clarified by a little candid discussion.

There seems to be no question that the American soldier, both Guardsman and draftee, entertains a strong dislike for and disbelief in the extreme of military, punctilio and discipline. The service rendered by West Point is conceded and praised. Without West Point we could never have trained our vast army, we could never have saved the day in France. But the thought is constantly expressed that a civilian army does not need such rigorous treatment as a regular army and that the West Point tradition might well be modified. The sentiment for universal training is much befogged by this criticism. Universal training under a certain type of officer would be unthinkable to most Americans. Universal training, broadly conceived along educational lines and stressing physical training, is a wholly different matter.

Discipline is discipline, and there is every reason for preserving a high standard of military regulation among officers, war or no war. But the sort of surveillance exercised by Major General O'Ryan seems strange to the civilian mind.

Victory Over Disease

Much has been heard of the triumphs of surgery that have resulted from the war, but according to Professor J. G. Adams, of the Canadian expeditionary force, rather the triumphs of preventative medicine are even more notable.

In past wars disease has commonly caused more deaths than have wounds. In our own Spanish war flies killed more men than bullets. But for his comparisons Professor Adams goes no further back than the Boer War. The British forces in South Africa, about equal to the Canadian expeditionary force in France, saw 130 out of every 1,000 men contract typhoid fever. The deaths were eighteen in a thousand—about twice the number killed in battle. From the entire British force in South Africa 57,684 were admitted to the hospitals for disease, while from the Canadian force in France in the entire four years of the fighting only 412 men were sent to hospitals because of disease. For every thousand men only one suffered from typhoid, says Professor Adams.

The immunity from typhoid was due to inoculation. Tetanus from wounds, prevalent in the early days of the war, was also largely overcome by the use of tetanus serum.

Another Dead League

The Tribune recently brought before its readers some of the reasons for the failure of the attempt of 1815 to confederate Europe on the declared basis of Christian precepts and the Golden Rule.

But there are other dead leagues of peace, notably the league of twelve nations of ancient Greece, organized before the beginning of written history by the fabulous Amphictyon of Thessaly, with Delphi, the Hague of the Hellenic world, its meeting place. Here was the oath of the associated states:

"We swear never to destroy the Amphictyonic towns, nor ever to divert, either in peace or war, the springs or streams necessary to supply their wants. If any power should attempt it we will march against that power and destroy its cities . . . or swear to employ our feet, our arms, our voices, and all our powers against them and their accomplices."

The tribunal met twice a year and judged, besides matters covered by the original oath, offenses against the law of nations. Questions arising were discussed by twenty-four deputies, two from each state, and decided by a majority vote. When any nation was adjudged guilty a fine was imposed on it, which if not paid before an appointed time was doubled. If the offender continued refractory the federation was authorized to call for assistance and arm against it all members of the league.

But Greece, as every schoolboy knows, though united by a common language, a common religion, and for the most part by common institutions, was constantly at war. Sparta, Athens and Boetia, though members of the league, laughed at its decrees and sought to avoid the shame, if not the fact, of contumacy by saying that justice was on their side. For example, when the Lacedaemonians, in times of profound peace, aggressively seized the citadel of Thebes and were fined, they refused to submit to the judgment and the Amphictyonic magistrates lacked power to coerce them.

The idea behind the union was noble, and all accepted it as a generality, but the Amphictyonic league, though its power was more ample than is provided by the Smuts-Wilson embodiment of the peace idea, lacked the power to compel obedience. So it became the habit of the Greeks to call a barren promise an Amphictyonic pledge.

It was possible for the dominant powers of Greece then, as it is possible for the dominant powers of the world now, to come together in a firm and lasting union for peace. But though there

was a common aspiration power was not put behind it, and so it came to naught.

We have no right to expect the pending covenant to become in any true sense a league of peace unless there is concurrent action, based on mutual trust, to give it power. The opportunity now offers to form a union among five states, which, with the help of the states they would naturally attract, would be able to maintain the peace they have won with the sword, but the pending project is not for such a coalition. Instead, we now behold, first, an energetic attempt to break down such mutual confidence as now exists, and, second, refusal to assemble international power in an easy and natural way.

Ebb or Flow Immigration?

The bill for the restriction of immigration was among the Congressional legislative casualties, but an extra session of Congress means its resuscitation. America, which opened its doors to more than a million immigrants a year in the decade preceding the war, is not pleased with the unsavory vapors arising of late from the Melting Pot, and opinion seems to disfavor adding to the mixture until there is more complete fusion.

But in the opinion of Anthony Caminetti, United States Commissioner of Immigration, restrictive measures may not be necessary. In "The Forum" he expresses the belief that the United States may become an emigrant nation instead of an immigrant one.

Europe may be attractive to wage earners for the next few years. Taxes will be heavy, but they have been heavy throughout the war, yet there is much prosperity among the wage earners. This condition will be maintained for a considerable time, he believes, because of the shortage of men, due to the wastage of war and the great amount of reconstructive work to be done.

There is also a factor of idealism, Mr. Caminetti remarks. The war apparently has engendered in the people of Europe, at least among the Allied nations, a love of country that makes them loath to give up their citizenship. This condition was observed by the Department of Immigration even before the fighting put a stop to the flow of immigrants to America.

The Commissioner's fear is that the desirable class will prefer to remain at home, while another class, relatively small but very undesirable, will seek a haven here. "These will include," says Mr. Caminetti, "not only all those physically, mentally and morally not entitled to admission, but also that still more undesirable type commonly referred to as anarchists, who come for license rather than for freedom." Even if no additional laws are passed there will be a rigid examination for the exclusion of such undesirable, he says.

To those who contend there will be a shortage of labor in America if immigration is restricted Mr. Caminetti says:

"Without now taking up the claim that more laborers will be needed, whether or not the prediction is verified, I desire to call attention to the fact that a supply exists in abundance in Porto Rico, the Virgin Islands and the Philippines. What better way could be found to build up these possessions or what more suitable plan be devised to bind them to us, to obtain their confidence, to secure their trade and aid their development than to engage a portion of their people in our industries on the mainland? We would benefit them immensely and also avoid the reappearance of a disturbing problem that it has been our hope, from economic and other viewpoints, had been settled more than a quarter of a century ago."

To Porto Rico recently returned a boatload of prosperous islanders who had been to the United States to work in war industries. It might be worth while to make a study of these returned islanders and determine whether their introduction into mainland life was beneficial to them.

Not much importance is to be ascribed to the unfortunate clash between American and Japanese soldiers at Tien-tsin. Barrack room conflicts sometimes break out between units of a common army. Both governments are likely to express regret and close the incident. Yet there is a warning—namely, that it is not easy to feed Americans on a steady diet of suspicion against Japanese and the Japanese with a steady diet of suspicion against Americans and escape natural consequences. Peace is not fostered by those who excite distrust.

The *Globe* asks its readers to vote on the following question: "Do you wish the United States to enter a league of nations to preserve peace?" Our evening neighbor is apparently interested in having a plebiscite with no negative ballots. It might as well have asked "Do you favor the Decalogue?"

Representatives of other states which have men in the 27th Division can't get seats for the parade. The Board of Aldermen might set aside for them a few of the 6,700 its members desire.

On what provender did the framer of the income tax law which allows \$200 exemption for the support of each child rear his own offspring?

Equal to the problem of why the Bolsheviks endure is the puzzle of where they get all the grand dukes.

Enough for Many

To the Editor of The Tribune:
Sir: Roosevelt did not approve of the Wilson league of nations. That is enough for a good many American people.

J. A. HUSTED.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y., March 5, 1919.

The Conning Tower

"SUCH STUFF AS DREAMS"

Jenny kiss'd me in a dream;
So did Elsie, Lucy, Cora,
Bessie, Gwendolyn, Eupheme,
Alice, Adelaide, and Dora.
Say of honor I'm devoid,
Say monogamy has miss'd me,
But don't say to Dr. Freud
Jenny kiss'd me.

As to the President's knowledge of the sentiment of the American people, our feeling is that if the White House table served veal chops every day for six weeks the President wouldn't know how the majority of the family felt about veal chops. Our guess is that most people are in favor of a league that will reduce the possibility of war to zero; but as to the accuracy of that guess we have no knowledge.

THE DIARY OF OUR OWN SAMUEL PEPYS

March 13—To luncheon with R. Straus, and we talked of old days in the Army, and he told me of his trip to Siberia and Japan, and thence I to the office, and many persons to see me, all staying too long except Miss J. Henderson. To Mrs. Sallie Farnham's to dinner, and found Mistress Neysa there, and H. Harrison, too; and Mrs. F. sculpted my head, and we had much merry talk and it was midnight before I was ware of it. To my room, and read more stories in T. Dreiser's collection, "Free," and found them dull.

14—Lay late, forasmuch as I did not sleep until four; and to the office, where I found G. Parsons returned from the West, and full of incident and comment, and with him to luncheon. My Lord Woodrow has arrived in Paris, and my prayers are for him and this nation, and my hopes that their interests are one. My wife writes me she will be with me to-morrow, and I excited and joyous at the prospect.

"Conning Tower" Gains Big Point in Peace Pact

By Herbert Bayard Swope

(Special to The Conning Tower)
PARIS, Feb. 22.—B.H. White and I have constituted ourselves a Committee of Defence to prevent the Peace Conference from including The Conning Tower in the provisions for disarmament.

We are, as four contribs have pointed out, a hell of a listener. What the lady in "The Melting of Molly" said was not "You're a hell of a bridegroom," but "You're a hell of a Romeo." It remains, to our notion, a Sheol of a wheeze.

A VERY DOLOUROUS BALLADE OF DRINKS IN DAYS TO COME

Hearken, ye Wise Whom Poets control,
Whiles I your evil fate review
When ye have broke the golden Bowl
And painted every Rose dull blue;
Ye shall have Sundaes and such goo
As giveth children grievous pain;
There will be Tea and Coffee, too—
And William Jennings Bryan's brain.

Yea, in those days, for your much dole,
Ye shall drink Soda, and Spoonju,
And Lemonade shall save your soul,
And Grapejuice gar your belly grue;
Ye shall be sodden through and through
With Sarsaparilla; ye shall deign
To call Root-Beer your festal brew—
(And William Jennings Bryan's brain.)

As for to keep your bodies whole,
Ye shall have Epsom Salts and Sprue;
And some there be shall drink Nujol,
Or Zoolak with its microbe crew.
At Coca-Cola none shall spue—
The drops of Moxie ye shall drain—
Pe-Ru-Na shall your hearts renew,
And William Jennings Bryan's brain.

Take comfort, ALL GOOD MEN AND TRUE,
Mindful what mercies yet remain:
Cold Water shall be furnished you—
And William Jennings Bryan's brain.

"Tut!" blaspheme the Anti-Leaguers, "you people that say perpetual peace is possible pointed to the snowless winter, crying, 'Once you thought this wasn't possible.' Where's your snowless winter now?"

An Accommodation Train

Sir: Just to show how one can live in New York and yet know nothing of the neighborhood, I can't for the life of me think of a station fifteen minutes out of New York on the Penn. R. R. from which there are no trains back to the metropolis between 6:30 P. M. and midnight. And yet that is what the Pullman conductor in "A Little Journey" tells the young lady who has to get off at the next stop because she has lost her ticket. Maybe this is subtle propaganda against government ownership. I'd believe anything of those guys.

If Mrs. Inch gets no vaudeville offer, she can always get a job posing for a picture of a prominent society woman at a dog show.

"While their wives chatted on the red carpeted platform," says the cable, "the two Presidents inspected the guard of honor." Why should the women of this country be deprived of what these two women said to each other. Why, indeed?

MRS. WILSON—Bon jour, Madame P. How has things been since the jour je departe a Paris?

MRS. POINCARRE—Oh, I can't complain. I see it better and I see it worse.

—Et how is Raymond?

—He had a little headache last night. Worries too much. How is your Viduax?

—I don't see how he keeps it up. Day in and day out he works at this Peace business, and what does he get out of it? Nothing. He's working himself to a shadow. But he won't listen a moi.

—Ain't it the truth, Mrs. W.? They're all alike.

—I'm glad to be back in la belle Paris.

—That's very nice of you, Mrs. W. Come up to the house some time.

—Sure I will. Remember me to Mr. P.

—Ah, oui! And my regards to your husband.

Discuss World League Clamly, Says Mr. Hughes—Evening Telegram headline.

"Stet!" yells the proofroom.

BLESS HIM!

Old Mike's a peach.

In my opinion;

He says, "Just four

More lines of minion."

F. P. A.

THERE'S NO TELLING HOW FARREACHING THE EFFECTS OF THIS WAR ARE GOING TO BE



What Japan Really Wants

By Adachi Kinnosuke

THE league of nations, its covenants, constitutions and conceptions will be a monument to hypocrisy if it fails to declare that the color of one's skin has nothing to do with justice and humanity. That is what the Japanese people think.

On the 5th of February there was a great gathering at the famous Seiyu-ken at Ueno. More than five hundred leaders of Japanese thought and achievement gathered there. All the leading political parties were represented—the Seiyu-kai, the dominant party at present, and the opposition, the Kensei party, and so on. In addition, thirty-seven organizations of various types and importance were there also. It was presided over by Mr. Teiichi Sugita, a prominent member of the House of Peers of the Imperial Diet. The gathering was the first important expression of the national sentiment on the question of race discrimination. The gathering made the following declaration:

"At present the Allied powers at the peace conference are planning for the permanent peace of the world through the establishment of an international league. The people of Japan endorse it with full-hearted approval and ceaselessly pray for its success.

"Pregnant of Discord"

"But the discriminatory treatment against races in practice heretofore among certain powers is not only utterly inconsistent with the great principle of freedom and equality, but also it is pregnant with the fundamental causes of international discords. If the principle and practice of race discrimination be permitted to abide, hundreds and thousands of treaties and conventions might be piled one on top of the other and they would be nothing more than a mere paper temple built upon the sand, and it is idle to hope for the peace of the world.

"Therefore, in order to establish the permanent peace of the world on the broad principle of justice and humanity, we wish to appeal to the public opinions of the world."

And the meeting passed the following resolution:

"Be it resolved, that we, the people of Nippon, shall try to bring about the complete abandonment of the discriminatory treatment against races which has been in practice among nations, through the peace conference."

"Because Japs Are Timid"

As the first step in carrying out their resolution, they decided to call upon the government authorities to make known the wishes and sentiment of the people on the question of race discrimination; also to call the attention of the peace conference to their position in the matter. They called their declarations to Mr. Clemenceau.

"The reason for the abandonment of racial discrimination is exceedingly plain," said Lieutenant General Kojiro Sato, speaking at the meeting. He represented a body of soldiers. "We Japanese are looked upon as the leaders of the colored races of the world. It is important that we should give

voice to this issue." He declared that the reasons why the white races lorded it over the colored races of the world was due to two main reasons: the indifference of the colored races in international activities and the shamelessly timid and spineless foreign policy of Japan.

Dr. Giichi Fukushima, who represented a learned society at the meeting, declared: "The settlement of the question of political equality and equal treatment of races of the world is too vital a question to be left and ignored until after the establishment of the league of nations. By way of a preliminary proof that the league will never commit injustice in its high name, we wish to see it do away with the prejudice and discriminations against races."

"Color No Bar"

Vice-Admiral Kanizumi, speaking for an association of naval men which he represented, said: "Blessings and happiness of life which Heaven dispenses to all human kind should not either be given or withheld because of the color of people's skins."

And the Hon. Kanichi Otake, of the Seiyu party, said: "The Entente Allies are planning for the establishment of permanent peace at the peace conference through the establishment of the league of nations. But before they can do that they must do away with such things as race prejudice once for all. To try to make this world a world for the white race is the extreme of absurdities. The league of nations, without eliminating the idea of race prejudice is a league of lies."

Mr. Saburo Shimada, the veteran leader of the Kensei party, spoke: "The logic for the abolition of racial discrimination is self-evident. It is too plain to call for explanations. In advocating it to-day, I think, we have hit upon absolutely the happiest opportunity possible, judging from the tendencies of the world."

General Kojiro Sato, writing in the "Kokumin," a leading newspaper in Tokyo, points out that in the great war both England and France utilized the colored races with eminently good and satisfactory results. To deny them, now that the struggle is over, equal treatment accorded to white races, even while they are preaching justice and humanity loudly and insistently, is to lay the foundation of a great racial war to come. Race discrimination is not consistent with their profession of justice; it does not harmonize with the principle of humanity; it is the real enemy of real democracy. . . . He goes on to say that if Japan is to agree to a reduction of armaments and the abolition of compulsory conscription laws, it is imperative for her to insist on one thing above all else: the complete abandonment of discriminatory treatment of the colored races of the world by the "white powers."

Asks Wilson Declaration

The Tokio "Yoruzu" goes so far as to think that President Wilson should either face the question of race discrimination frankly like a man or stamp himself a hypocrite and betrayer of his own repeatedly and loudly proclaimed ideals of political

justice and the broader principles of humanity. Because of this and also because of its implicit trust in the passion for fair play and justice of the American people, the "Yoruzu" confidently expects that the United States will be among the first to wage war against the discriminatory treatment of darker skinned races.

The Tokio "Nichi-Nichi" professes confidence in the sincerity of President Wilson, but thinks something is decidedly wrong somewhere in the contradictory realm of American politics—judging from the speeches made in Congress, some of which seem to demand a special protection for the "white" people's unrighteous interests at the expense of the rest of the world.

The Tokio "Asahi" declares that Japan would not send her labor emigration into the countries where they are not welcomed even if the principle of perfect equality of treatment of all the races were adopted by all the members of the league of nations. But it demands that the Japanese (or members of any other dark skinned races), who go abroad in perfect accord with the provisions of treaties and engage in legitimate business in foreign countries shall enjoy the same privileges and treatment as are given to white immigrants.

The Hungry Huns

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The following is an extract from a letter written by one of the Intelligence officers attached to the United States General Headquarters at Trier, Germany, and because I feel so strongly that there can't be too much of this sort of information published to keep our people from so peacefully going back into the blind sleep that we were in before the war, I am sending it to you, hoping that you will publish it.

"We've just come home from a café where we ate ice cream and listened to good music. The place was brilliantly lighted and crowded with fat, sleek, well-dressed Huns. We went there because we had grown tired of the performance of 'Faust' at the theatre—which seemed due to continue until the morning after. 'Poet, exhausted, starving Germany.' Bunk! nothing but bunk! Lying Hun propaganda to try to get easier peace terms by whining. The 'Social Democratic Republic' figure-head Ebert. The same bunk.

"In the 'Answers to Correspondents' in the 'Militar-Wochenblatt' for December 14, 1918, is this: 'The regulations concerning marriage of officers on the active lists are again in force, except, naturally, no sanction of the all highest is to be obtained, and the regulations concerning the courts of honor are still in force.'

"In the leading hotel last night a woman was trying to flirt with an American lieutenant two tables away; at the same moment she was talking, in asides, to the two Hun men at her table about 'Yankee swine.' "Nice, lovable people, who tip their hats to passing American officers while engaged in an argument as to whether it will be ten or twenty years before they can sack French towns again!"

M. L. S.

Bridgeport, Conn., March 10, 1919.

But George Liked His Straight

(From The Indianapolis Star)
Of course, the loss of a good cherry tree was more serious back in the days of cocktails.